

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 757

By Kyle

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Robert Eugene Tipton, Jr. of Memphis.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the untimely death of Robert Eugene Tipton, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Tipton was an inspiring young man, who was a great source of pride to his family and brought endless joy to the lives of those people who were fortunate enough to know him; and

WHEREAS, his kindness and sensitivity had the power to transform minds and impact the community in positive ways; and

WHEREAS, born on February 10, 1990, Robert Tipton, Jr. attended Presbyterian Day School and Memphis University School (MUS), where he demonstrated the utmost commitment to academic excellence and personal development; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Carlbrook School in Halifax, Virginia, Mr. Tipton was an industrious student at High Point University in North Carolina, earning the respect and admiration of his professors and classmates alike; and

WHEREAS, a talented track athlete, he broke the MUS middle school two-mile cross-country record as an eighth grader, tied the high school one-mile track record as a star runner on the MUS Varsity Cross-Country team, for which he was the only ninth grader to place runner-up in the State, and won the Shelby League's Dan Griffin Outstanding Award in 2005; and

WHEREAS, Robert Tipton, Jr. also loved the outdoors, duck hunting and skeet shooting at his family's 5 Oaks Lodge in Humphrey, Arkansas, enjoyed music as well as science and technology, and cultivated a strong appreciation for Japanese culture; and

WHEREAS, aside from his many talents and interests, Mr. Tipton was deeply devoted to his family and cherished every moment with them, from traveling with his mother to escorting his sister in Carnival Memphis; and

WHEREAS, throughout his life, he enjoyed the love and support of his maternal grandparents, Lib and George Dunklin, who will faithfully welcome him into the next life; and

WHEREAS, a beloved son and brother, he is survived by his mother, Deborah Dunklin Tipton; his father, Dr. Robert E. Tipton, Sr.; and his sister, Mary Elisabeth Black Tipton; and

WHEREAS, he will also be sorely missed by his uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. George Hillary Dunklin, Jr.; his cousins, Megan, Hillary, and Lauren Dunklin; his great-aunts and uncles, Mr. and Mrs. William H. Dunklin, Sr. and Mr. and Mrs. Louis M. Dunklin; and his many dear friends; and

WHEREAS, Robert Tipton, Jr. leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional young man; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Robert Eugene Tipton, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Tipton.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.